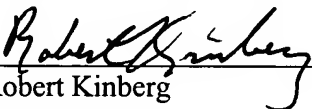


**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate multiple claim dependency and to add an abstract to the application. Examination on the merits of the application is requested

Date: 1/3/05

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert Kinberg

Registration No. 26,924

VENABLE LLP

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax: (202) 344-8300

DOCS#609065